

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

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R 250850Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1379

UNCLAS MADRID 1968

DEPT PLS PASS ALL NATO CAPITALS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, SP

SUBJ: AMBASSADOR STABLER'S SPEECH: EXCERPTS ON NATO

FYI FROM AMBASSADOR WELLS STABLER'S FIRST SPEECH
SINCE ARRIVAL IN SPAIN, THERE FOLLOW EXCERPTS CONCERNING
WESTERN EUROPE AND NATO, INCLUDING REITERATION THAT SPAIN
SHOULD BE A PART OF NATO AND THE EC. THE ADDRESS, WHICH
HAS RECEIVED WIDE COVERAGE, WAS DELIVERED MARCH 21 BEFORE
THE AMERICAN MEN'S CLUB OF MADRID. BEGIN EXCERPTS;

"I HAVE HEARD IT SAID THAT AS SPAIN GROWS CLOSER
TO EUROPE, IT MUST INEVITABLY MOVE FURTHER AWAY FROM
THE UNITED STATES. I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE
UNITED STATES BELIEVES THIS IS A MISCONCEPTION. AS
MUCH AS WE ARE GRATIFIED BY THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES, WE ARE WELL AWARE
THAT SPAIN ALSO HAS SPECIAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER
AREAS OF THE WORLD. SINCE THOSE DAYS WHEN THE UNITED
STATES UNDERTOOK TO MAKE ITS VAST CONTRIBUTION TO THE
RECONSTRUCTIONS OF POST-WAR EUROPE, IT HAS PROMOTED
PRATICAL MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN THE INTERNAL COHESION
OF WESTERN EUROPE AND TO STIMULATE EXCHANGES IN ALL
FIELDS. THROUGHOUT THE POST-WAR PERIOD, THE UNITED
STATES HAS SUPPORTED THE CONCEPT OF A UNIFIED WESTERN

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EUROPE. WE RECOGNIZED THAT SUCH A EUROPE MIGHT BE

MORE DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH IN SOME WAYS, BUT WE FORESAW MANY ADVANTAGES. THIS REMAINS OUR POLICY TODAY, PROVIDED, OF COURSE, THAT EUROPE'S OWN PERCEPTION IS AN OUTWARD-LOOKING ONE. FROM THE START, THE UNITED STATES BELIEVED IN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SPANISH CONTRIBUTION TO A MORE UNITED EUROPE, AND THUS, TO ITS DEFENSE AS WELL. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF EUROPE AND SPAIN THAT SPAIN BECOME A FULL-FLEDGED MEMBER OF THE VARIOUS EUROPEAN ENTITIES INCLUDING THE COMMUNITY AS LONG AS THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF OUTSIDE PARTIES ARE PROTECTED ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS SUCH AS THE GATT.

"FOR THE PAST 22 YEARS, WE HAVE SHARED A PERCEPTION WITH SPAIN AND THE SPANISH PEOPLE OF THE NEED TO PRESERVE AND STRENGTHEN THE SECURITY OF THE WESTERN WORLD. IN RECOGNITION OF THIS NEED AND OF ITS OWN STRATEGIC GEOGRAPHIC POSITION, SPAIN HAS COOPERATED CLOSELY WITH US IN THE COMMON DEFENSE. NOTWITHSTANDING THE CHANGES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN EACH OF OUR COUNTRIES, AND IN THE WORLD AS A WHOLE, THE PERCEPTION OF THIS NEED FOR DEFENSE COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES REMAINS UNCHANGED."

DETENTE "REQUIRES THAT THE WESTERN DEFENSE POSTURE BE STRONG AND VIGILANT, FOR WE KNOW THAT WEAKNESS AND INDECISION WILL BE EXPLOITED TO OUR DISADVANTAGE."

"THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT SPAIN SHOULD ASSUME ITS FULL AND RIGHTFUL ROLE AS A DIRECT PARTICIPANT IN WESTERN DEFENSIVE EFFORTS. WE HAVE STATED MANY TIMES, BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY, TO OUR NATO ALLIES THAT HOWEVER EFFECTIVE OUR BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEFENSE COOPERATION MIGHT BE, SPAIN SHOULD BECOME DIRECTLY ASSOCIATED WITH THOSE MAIN STRUCTURES THROUGH WHICH ATLANTIC AND WESTERN DEFENSE IS ASSURED. IN THIS GENERAL CONNECTION I SHOULD ALSO LIKE TO RECALL THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES SIGNED BY SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES ON JULY 1974."

STABLER

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NOTE BY OC/T: MADRID 1968 NOT PASSED ALL NATO CAPITALS.

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